

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Norfolk Division**

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 2:18-cv-530-MSD-RJK

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY
COMPANY, *et al.*,**

Defendants.

**NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH BELT LINE RAILROAD COMPANY'S
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL**

Norfolk and Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad Company (“the Belt Line”), by counsel, states as follows in support of its motion to seal (1) unredacted portions of the memorandum in opposition to CSXT’s Motion to Exclude Thomas D. Crowley and (2) Exhibits 1-3 to the memorandum in opposition. The redactions contain certain highly confidential, proprietary, and sensitive business information, the release of which could harm the Belt Line, plaintiff CSX Transportation, Inc. and co-defendant Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

1. There are three requirements for sealing court filings: (1) public notice with opportunity to object; (2) consideration of less drastic alternatives; and (3) a statement of specific findings in support of a decision to seal and reject alternatives to sealing. *Flexible Benefits Council v. Feldman*, No. 1:08-CV-371, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 93039 (E.D. Va. Nov. 13, 2008) (citing *Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc.*, 218 F.3d 282, 288 (4th Cir. 2000)). Even when no party challenges a motion to seal, the Court must still ensure the motion is supported by good cause. *Auburn Univ. v. IBM Corp.*, No. 3:0-cv-694-MEF, unpublished, 2010 WL 3927737 (M.D. Ala. Oct. 4, 2010).

2. All three requirements are met here. On October 29, 2019, the Court entered a Stipulated Protective Order, which governs the parties' use of confidential information produced in this case. *See* D.E. 79. Paragraph 2 of the Stipulated Protective Order defines "Protected Material" as material containing information that "must or may be protected from disclosure," including material designated "CONFIDENTIAL" and "CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY." *Id.* at para. 2.

3. The Belt Line's memorandum in opposition to CSXT's Motion to Exclude Thomas D. Crowley and Exhibits 1-3 to the memorandum in opposition contain highly confidential and sensitive information relating to CSXT's, NS's, and the Belt Line's transportation and shipping practices, business strategies, internal communications, and other highly confidential, proprietary, and sensitive business information that has been marked as either "CONFIDENTIAL" or "CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY," the release of which would harm all three parties.

4. This information thus constitutes "Protected Material" under the Stipulated Protective Order. *See id.*

5. The Stipulated Protective Order requires the Belt Line to file these documents under seal. *See id.* at para. 16.

For the foregoing reasons, the Belt Line requests that the Court enter the proposed order attached as Exhibit A to the Belt Line's motion to seal, granting the Belt Line leave to file the unredacted portions of the memorandum in opposition to CSXT's Motion to Exclude Thomas D. Crowley and Exhibits 1-3 to the memorandum in opposition thereto, under seal, and directing the Clerk of Court to maintain such exhibits under seal pending further order of the Court.

Dated: September 2, 2022

**NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH
BELT LINE RAILROAD COMPANY**

By: /s/ W. Ryan Snow
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this 2nd day of September 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send a “Notice of Electronic Filing” to all counsel of record who have consented to electronic service.

/s/ W. Ryan Snow

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